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Letter dated 12 December 2012 from the Permanent Representative of the Republic of Korea to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to forward to you the enclosed statement made by the Government of the Republic of Korea as a response to the long-range missile launch by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on 12 December 2012 (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would bring the present letter and its annex to the attention of the members of the Security Council and have it circulated as a document of the Council.

(*Signed*) **KIM** Sook
Ambassador

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Annex to the letter dated 12 December 2012 from the Permanent Representative of the Republic of Korea to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

Statement by the Government of the Republic of Korea on North Korea's Missile Launch

- The Government of the Republic of Korea detected that North Korea once again launched a long-range missile, using the name "a working satellite", at 0951 on 12 December 2012, at a launching site located in Cholsan-gun, North Pyongan province.
- The launch by North Korea is a flagrant violation of Security Council resolutions 1718 (2006) and 1874 (2009), which prohibit any launch using ballistic missile technology, and constitutes an act of defiance which threatens not only the peace and security of the Korean Peninsula but also international peace and security.
- The Government of the Republic of Korea joins the international community in strongly condemning North Korea's decision to push forward with the provocative act, disregarding the international community's repeated warnings and calls for the withdrawal of the launch. North Korea will be held duly accountable for its actions, as clearly warned by the Security Council in its Presidential statement of 16 April 2012.
- North Korea will be further isolated from the international community as a result of this launch. The Government of the Republic of Korea once again urges North Korea to use its enormous amount of resources to enhance the livelihood of its people, rather than wasting them in developing nuclear weapons and missiles.
- The Government of the Republic of Korea is maintaining a high readiness posture against North Korea's nuclear and missile threat, as well as any other provocation by North Korea, and will take corresponding measures against the launch in close coordination with related countries and the international community.